# Ross Westerfield Jaffe corporate finance tenth edition



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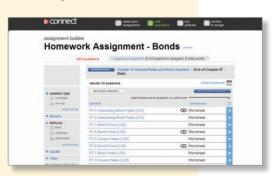
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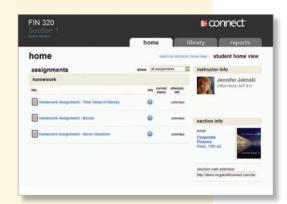
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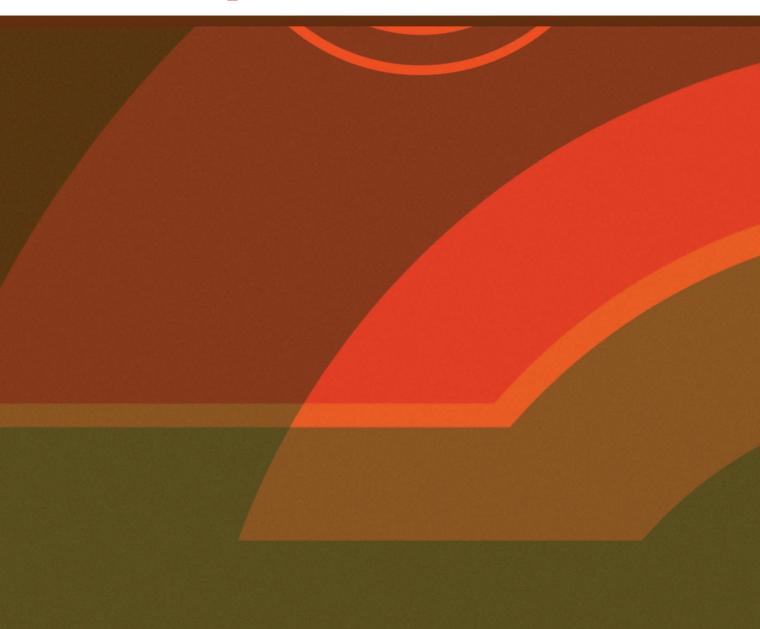
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# Corporate Finance



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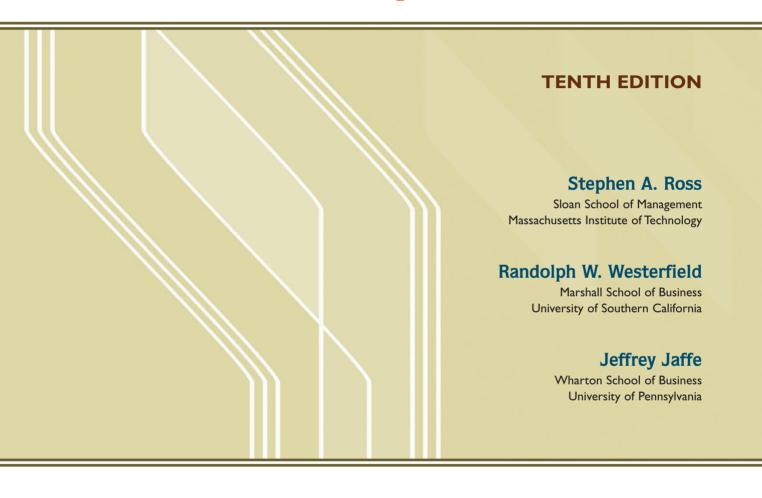
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# Corporate Finance







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To our family and friends with love and gratitude.

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#### **Preface**

he teaching and the practice of corporate finance are more challenging and exciting than ever before. The last decade has seen fundamental changes in financial markets and financial instruments. In the early years of the 21st century, we still see announcements in the financial press about takeovers, junk bonds, financial restructuring, initial public offerings, bankruptcies, and derivatives. In addition, there are the new recognitions of "real" options, private equity and venture capital, subprime mortgages, bailouts, and credit spreads. As we have learned in the recent global credit crisis and stock market collapse, the world's financial markets are more integrated than ever before. Both the theory and practice of corporate finance have been moving ahead with uncommon speed, and our teaching must keep pace.

These developments have placed new burdens on the teaching of corporate finance. On one hand, the changing world of finance makes it more difficult to keep materials up to date. On the other hand, the teacher must distinguish the permanent from the temporary and avoid the temptation to follow fads. Our solution to this problem is to emphasize the modern fundamentals of the theory of finance and make the theory come to life with contemporary examples. Increasingly, many of these examples are outside the United States.

All too often the beginning student views corporate finance as a collection of unrelated topics that are unified largely because they are bound together between the covers of one book. We want our book to embody and reflect the main principle of finance: Namely, that good financial decisions will add value to the firm and to shareholders and bad financial decisions will destroy value. The key to understanding how value is added or destroyed is cash flows. To add value, firms must generate more cash than they use. We hope this simple principle is manifest in all parts of this book.

#### The Intended Audience of This Book

This book has been written for the introductory courses in corporate finance at the MBA level and for the intermediate courses in many undergraduate programs. Some instructors will find our text appropriate for the introductory course at the undergraduate level as well.

We assume that most students either will have taken, or will be concurrently enrolled in, courses in accounting, statistics, and economics. This exposure will help students understand some of the more difficult material. However, the book is self-contained, and a prior knowledge of these areas is not essential. The only mathematics prerequisite is basic algebra.

#### New to Tenth Edition

All chapter openers and examples have been updated to reflect the financial trends and turbulence of the last several years. In addition, we have updated the end-ofchapter problems and questions in every chapter. We have tried to incorporate the many exciting new research findings in corporate finance. Several chapters have been extensively rewritten.

- Chapter 9 Stock Valuation. This chapter now adds a description of how discounted cash flow can be used to determine the value of an entire enterprise in addition to individual common stocks. We also introduce the important concept of comparable firms and show how to use market data on comparable firms to bolster discounted cash flow methods. We try to organize the material so that instructors can choose which best fits their lesson plan.
- Chapter 10 Risk and Return: Lessons from Market History. We continue to update and internationalize our discussion of historical risk and return since these updates are far from routine. One of our focal points is the equity risk premium (ERP). With better historical data and more countries included, our estimates of the ERP are on stronger footing.
- Chapter 13 has been retitled, from Risk, Cost of Capital, and Capital Budgeting
  to Risk, Cost of Capital, and Valuation. We introduce the concept of the weighted
  average cost of capital (R<sub>wacc</sub>) and show how it can be used along with discounted
  cash flow to value both an entire enterprise as well as individual projects.
- Chapter 15 Long-Term Financing. The introduction has been extensively rewritten to introduce the basic features of debt and equity as well as recent trends and innovations.
- Chapter 17 Capital Structure: Limits to the Use of Debt has been rewritten to incorporate some new and important empirical and theoretical work on capital structure. It is now much clearer to us that actual capital structures vary a lot over time and are much less stable than previously thought. This instability is strongly correlated to investment needs and opportunities and also suggests a greater need for financial flexibility than was previously thought to be necessary. We incorporate some recent research on international leverage ratios. Among 39 different countries, the U.S. has the fourth lowest.
- Chapter 19 Dividends and Other Payouts. We introduce the financial life cycle notion that most high-growth firms with external financial needs don't pay dividends or buy back shares, and low-growth firms with excess cash flows do pay dividends and/or buy back shares. This simple fact sometimes is lost in determining why firms actually pay or do not pay dividends and buy back shares. We use new data incorporating the financial crisis and also when corporate earnings turn negative. Interestingly, in our study, the level of dividends did not change much but share repurchases fell off.
- Chapter 20 has been retitled from Issuing Securities to the Public to Raising Capital. We build on the financial life cycle idea, introducing private equity and venture capital as early ways to raise funds in a firm's life cycle. Later on, successful firms will do an initial public offering (IPO) and seasoned equity offers (SEO).

# Pedagogy

In this edition of Corporate Finance, we have updated and improved our features to present material in a way that makes it coherent and easy to understand. In addition, Corporate Finance is rich in valuable learning tools and support, to help students succeed in learning the fundamentals of financial management.

# Chapter Opening Vignettes

Each chapter begins with a contemporary vignette that highlights the concepts in the chapter and their relevance to real-world examples.

#### CHAPTER 10 Risk and Return LESSONS FROM MARKET HISTORY With the S&P 500 Index returning about 2 percent and the NASDAQ Composite Index down about I percent in 2011, stock market performance overall was not very good. However, investors in software company eGain Communications had to be happy about the 412 percent gain in that stock, and investors in semiconductor company Silicon Motion Technology had to feel pretty good following that company's 382 percent gain. Of course, not all stocks increased in value during the year. Stock in First Solar fell 74 percent during the year, and stock in Alpha Natural Resources dropped 66 percent. These examples show that there were tremendous potential profits to be made during 2011, but there was also the risk of losing money—and lots of it. So what should you, as a stock market investor, expect when you invest your own money? In this chapter, we study more than eight decades of market history to find out. 10.1 Returns DOLLAR RETURNS Suppose the Video Concept Company has several thousand shares of stock outstanding and you are a shareholder. Further suppose that you purchased some of the shares of stock in the company at the beginning of the year; it is now year-end and you want to figure out how well you have done on your investment. The return you get on an investment in stocks, like that in bonds or any other investment, comes in two forms. How did the market do today? Find out at As the owner of stock in the Video Concept Company, you are a part owner of the company. If the company is profitable, it generally could distribute some of its profits to the shareholders. Therefore, as the owner of shares of stock, you could finance.yahoo.com. receive some cash, called a dividend, during the year. This cash is the income com-ponent of your return. In addition to the dividends, the other part of your return is the capital gain-or, if it is negative, the capital loss (negative capital gain)-on the investment. For example, suppose we are considering the cash flows of the investment in Figure 10.1, showing that you purchased 100 shares of stock at the beginning of the year at a price of \$37 per share. Your total investment, then, was: $C_0 = \$37 \times 100 = \$3,700$ Suppose that over the year the stock paid a dividend of \$1.85 per share. During the year, then, you received income of: $Div = \$1.85 \times 100 = \$185$

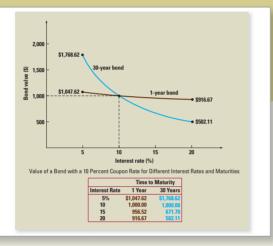
#### 6.2 The Baldwin Company: An Example

ExcelMaster coverage online

We next consider the example of a proposed investment in machinery and related items. Our example involves the Baldwin Company and colored bowling balls.

The Baldwin Company, originally established 16 years ago to make footballs, is now a leading producer of tennis balls, baseballs, footballs, and golf balls. Nine years ago, the company introduced "High Flite," its first line of high-performance golf balls. Baldwin management has sought opportunities in whatever businesses seem to have

#### Figure 8.2 Interest Rate Risk and Time to Maturity



#### EXAMPLE 9.5

Calculating the Required Return Pagemaster Enterprises, the company examined in the previous example, has 1,000,000 shares of stock outstanding. The stock is selling at \$10. What is the required return on the stock?

Because the retention ratio is 40 percent, the payout ratio is 60 percent (I - Retention ratio). The payout ratio is the ratio of dividends/earnings. Because earnings a year from now will be \$2,128,000 ( $\$2,000,000 \times 1.064$ ), dividends will be \$1,276,800 ( $.60 \times \$2,128,000$ ). Dividends per share will be 1.28 (1.276,800/1,000,000). Given our previous result that g=.064, we calculate Rfrom (9.9) as follows

 $.192 = \frac{\$1.28}{\$10.00} + .064$ 

#### **Excel Master Icons**

Topics covered in the comprehensive ExcelMaster supplement (found on the Online Learning Center) are indicated by an icon in the margin.

#### Figures and Tables

This text makes extensive use of real data and presents them in various figures and tables. Explanations in the narrative, examples, and end-of-chapter problems will refer to many of these exhibits.

#### **Examples**

Separate called-out examples are integrated throughout the chapters. Each example illustrates an intuitive or mathematical application in a step-by-step format. There is enough detail in the explanations so students don't have to look elsewhere for additional information.

#### "In Their Own Words" Boxes

Located throughout the chapters, this unique series consists of articles written by distinguished scholars or practitioners about key topics in the text. Boxes include essays by Edward I. Altman, Robert S. Hansen, Robert C. Higgins, Michael C. Jensen, Merton Miller, and Jay R. Ritter.

#### In Their Own Words

#### ROBERT C. HIGGINS ON SUSTAINABLE

Most financial officers know intuitively that it takes money to make money. Rapid sales growth requires increased assets in the form of accounts receivable increased assets in the form of accounts receivable, inventory, and fixed plant, which, in turn, require money to pay for assets. They also know that if their company does not have the money when needed, it can literally "grow broke." The sustainable growth equation states these intuitive truths

needed, if can literally "grow broke." The sustainable growth equation states these intuitive truths explicitly.

Sustainable growth is often used by bankers and other external analysts to assess a company's creditworthiness. They are aided in this exercise by several sophisticated computers software packages that provide detailed analyses of the company's past financial performance, including its annual sustainable growth rate.

Bankers use this information in several ways. Quick comparison of a company's actual growth rate to its sustainable rate tells the banker what issues will be at

sustainable rate tells the banker what issues will be at the top of management's financial agenda. If actual growth consistently exceeds sustainable growth, manent's problem will be where to get the cash to

prepared to talk about investment products because management's problem will be what to do with all the cash that keeps piling up in the till.

Bankers also find the sustainable growth equation useful for explaining to financially inexperienced small business owners and overly optimistic entreprenuers that, for the long-run viability of their business, it is necessary to keep growth and profitability in proper balance. proper balance

proper balance. Finally, comparison of actual to sustainable growth rates helps a banker understand why a loan applicant needs money and for low long the need might continue. In one instance, a loan applicant requested \$100,000 to pay off several insistent suppliers and promised to repay in a few months when he collected some accounts receivable that were coming due. A sustainable growth analysis revealed that the firm had been growing at four to six times its sustainable growth analysis revealed that the firm had been growing at four to six times its sustainable growth rate and that this pattern was likely to continue in the foresceable future. This alerted the banker that imparient suppliers were only a symptom banker that impatient suppliers were only a symptom of the much more fundamental disease of overly rapid growth, and that a \$100,000 loan would likely prove to be only the down payment on a much larger, multiyear

#### Spreadsheet Applications

Now integrated into select chapters, Spreadsheet Application boxes reintroduce students to Excel, demonstrating how to set up spreadsheets in order to analyze common financial problems—a vital part of every business student's education. (For even more spreadsheet example problems, check out Excel Master on the Online Learning Center!).

Using a	Spreadsheet for	or Time	Value o	f Mone	ey Calc	ulation	S		
More and m	ore, businesspeople f	rom many	different ar	reas (not just finance and accounting) rely on spreadsheets					
to do all the	different types of cale	culations th	nat come up	in the re	al world. A	s a result,	in this secti	on, we w	vill show
you how to	use a spreadsheet to	handle th	e various t	ime value	of money	problems	we presen	t in this	chapter.
We will use	Microsoft Excel™, b	ut the con	nmands are	similar fo	or other t	ypes of so	ftware. We	assume	you are
	iliar with basic spread								
As we h	nave seen, you can so	lve for any	one of						
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14 has a negative sign on it. Also notice that rate is entered as a decimal, not a percentage.

The home page for the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) is www.fasb.org

#### **VALUE VERSUS COST**

The accounting value of a firm's assets is frequently referred to as the carrying value or the book value of the assets.2 Under generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP), audited financial statements of firms in the United States carry the assets at cost.3 Thus the terms carrying value and book value are unfortunate. They specifically say "value," when in fact the accounting numbers are based on cost. This misleads

#### **Explanatory** Web site Links

These Web links are specifically selected to accompany text material and provide students and instructors with a quick reference to additional information on the Internet.

#### 25.5 Interest Rate Futures Contracts

In this section we consider interest rate futures contracts. Our examples deal with futures contracts on Treasury bonds because of their high popularity. We first price Treasury bonds and Treasury bond forward contracts. Differences between futures and forward contracts are explored. Hedging examples are provided next.

#### PRICING OF TREASURY BONDS

As mentioned earlier in the text, a Treasury bond pays semiannual interest over its life. In addition, the face value of the bond is paid at maturity. Consider a 20-year, 8 percent coupon bond that was issued on March 1. The first payment is to occur in six months that is, on September 1. The value of the bond can be determined as follows:

Pricing of Treasury Bond
$$P_{TB} = \frac{\$40}{1+R_1} + \frac{\$40}{(1+R_2)^2} + \frac{\$40}{(1+R_3)^3} + \dots + \frac{\$40}{(1+R_{39})^{39}} + \frac{\$1,040}{(1+R_{40})^{40}}$$
(25.1)

#### Numbered **Equations**

Key equations are numbered and listed on the back endsheets for easy reference.



material, take a quiz at mhhe.

So, what lessons should investors take away from this recent, and very turbulent, bit of capital market history? First, and most obviously, stocks have significant risk! But there is a second, equally important lesson. Depending on the mix, a diversified portfolio of stocks and bonds might have suffered in 2008, but the losses would have been much smaller than those experienced by an all-stock portfolio. In other words, diversification matters, a point we will examine in detail in our next chapter.

#### **OR Codes**

These scannable codes, located in each chapter, take you to the latest current events related to key topics, and to chapter quizzes related to key topics.



The end-of-chapter material reflects and builds upon the concepts learned from the chapter and study features.

#### **Summary and Conclusions**

The summary provides a quick review of key concepts in the chapter.

#### **Questions and Problems**

Because solving problems is so critical to a student's learning, new questions and problems have been added, and existing questions and problems have been revised. All problems have also been thoroughly reviewed and checked for accuracy.

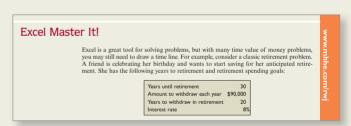
Problems have been grouped according to level of difficulty with the levels listed in the margin: Basic, Intermediate, and Challenge.

Additionally, we have tried to make the problems in the critical "concept" chapters, such as those on value, risk, and capital structure, especially challenging and interesting.

We provide answers to selected problems in Appendix B at the end of the book.

#### **Excel Master It!**

Included in the end-of-chapter material are problems directly incorporating Excel, and new tips and techniques taught in the chapter's ExcelMaster supplement.



## 25. Calculating Rates of Return You're trying to choose between two different investments, both of which have up-front costs of \$65,000. Investment G returns \$125,000 in six years. Investment H returns \$185,000 in 10 years. Which of these investments has the higher return?



26. Growing Perpetuities Mark Weinstein has been working on an advanced technology in laser eye surgery. His technology will be available in the near term. He anticipates his first annual cash flow from the technology to be \$175,000, received two years from today. Subsequent annual cash flows will grow at 3.5 percent in perpetuity. What is the present value of the technology if the discount rate is 10 percent?

27. Perpetuities A prestigious investment bank designed a new security that pays a quarterly dividend of \$4.50 in perpetuity. The first dividend occurs one quarter

#### Excel Problems

Indicated by the Excel icon in the margin, these problems can be found at the end of almost all chapters. Located on the book's Web site (see Online Resources), Excel templates have been created for each of these problems, where students can use the data in the problem to work out the solution using Excel skills.

#### **End-of-Chapter Cases**

Located at the end of almost every chapter, these mini cases focus on common company situations that embody important corporate finance topics. Each case presents a new scenario, data, and a dilemma. Several questions at the end of each case require students to analyze and focus on all of the material they learned in that chapter.

# Mini

#### THE MBA DECISION

Ben Bates graduated from college six years ago with a finance undergraduate degree. Ben Bates graduated from college six years ago with a finance undergraduate degree. Although he is sustified with lise current job, his goal is to become an investment banker. He feels that an MBA degree would allow him to achieve this goal. After examining schools, he has narrowed his choice to either Wilton University or Mount Perry College. Although internships are encouraged by both schools, to get class credit for the internship, no salary can be paid. Other than internships, neither school will allow its students to work while enrolled in its MBA program.

Ben currently works at the money management firm of Dewey and Louis. His annual salary at the firm is 865,000 per year, and his salary is expected to increase at 3 percent per year until retirement. He is currently 28 years old and expects to work for 40 more years. His current by includes a fully notified bethin increase part are is 6.6 percent.

job includes a fully paid health insurance plan, and his current average tax rate is 26 percent. Ben has a savings account with enough money to cover the entire cost of his MBA program. The Ritter College of Business at Wilton University is one of the top MBA programs in the control of the

# Comprehensive Teaching

Corporate Finance has many options in terms of the textbook, instructor supplements, student supplements, and multimedia products. Mix and match to create a package that is perfect for your course.

#### Online Learning Center

#### **Instructor Support**

The Online Learning Center (OLC) contains all the necessary supplements—Instructor's Manual, Test Bank, Computerized Test Bank, and PowerPoint—all in one place. Go to www.mhhe.com/rwj to find:

#### Instructor's Manual

Prepared by Steven Dolvin, Butler University.

This is a great place to find new lecture ideas. The IM has three main sections. The first section contains a chapter outline and other lecture materials. The annotated outline for each chapter includes lecture tips, real-world tips, ethics notes, suggested PowerPoint slides, and, when appropriate, a video synopsis.

#### Solutions Manual

Prepared by Joseph Smolira, Belmont University.

This manual contains detailed, worked-out solutions for all of the problems in the end-of-chapter material. It has been reviewed for accuracy by multiple sources. The Solutions Manual is also available for purchase by your students. (ISBN: 0-07-751134-4)

#### Test Bank

Prepared by Patricia Ryan, Colorado State University.

Here's a great format for a better testing process. The Test Bank has well over 100 questions per chapter that closely link with the text material and provide a variety of question formats (multiple-choice questions/problems and essay questions) and levels of difficulty (basic, intermediate, and challenge) to meet every instructor's testing needs. Problems are detailed enough to make them intuitive for students, and solutions are provided for the instructor.

#### Computerized Test Bank (Windows)

These additional questions are found in a computerized test bank utilizing McGraw-Hill's EZ Test software to quickly create customized exams. This user-friendly program allows instructors to sort questions by format, edit existing questions or add new ones, and scramble questions for multiple versions of the same test.

#### PowerPoint Presentation System

Prepared by Steven Dolvin, Butler University.

Customize our content for your course. This presentation has been thoroughly revised to include more lecture-oriented slides, as well as exhibits and examples both from the book and from outside sources. Applicable slides have Web links that take you directly to specific Internet sites, or a spreadsheet link to show an example in Excel. You can also go to the Notes Page function for more tips on presenting the slides. If you already have PowerPoint installed on your PC, you can edit, print, or rearrange the complete presentation to meet your specific needs.

# and Learning Package

#### Student Support

#### Narrated PowerPoint Examples

Updated by Kay Johnson, exclusively for students as part of the premium content package of this book. Each chapter's slides follow the chapter topics and provide steps and explanations showing how to solve key problems. Because each student learns differently, a quick click on each slide will "talk through" its contents with you!

#### Excel Templates

Corresponding to most end-of-chapter problems, each template allows the student to work through the problem using Excel. Each end-of-chapter problem with a template is indicated by an Excel icon in the margin beside it.

#### ExcelMaster

Developed for the RWJ franchise, this valuable and comprehensive supplement provides a tutorial for students in using Excel in finance, broken out by chapter sections.

#### More

Be sure to check out the other helpful features on the OLC, including self-study quizzes and chapter appendices.

#### Options Available for Purchase & Packaging

You may also package either version of the text with a variety of additional learning tools that are available for your students.

#### **Solutions Manual** ISBN-10: 0-07-751134-4 / ISBN-13: 978-0-07-751134-0

Prepared by Joseph Smolira, Belmont University.

This manual contains detailed, worked-out solutions for all of the problems in the end-of-chapter material. It has also been reviewed for accuracy by multiple sources. The Solutions Manual is also available for purchase by your students.

#### **FinGame Online 5.0** ISBN-10: 0-07-721988-0 / ISBN-13: 978-0-07-721988-8

By LeRoy Brooks, John Carroll University.

Just \$15.00 when packaged with this text. In this comprehensive simulation game, students control a hypothetical company over numerous periods of operation. The game is now tied to the text by exercises found at the Online Learning Center. As students make major financial and operating decisions for their company, they will develop and enhance skills in financial management and financial accounting statement analysis.

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- Applies an intelligent concept engine to identify the relationships between ideas and to serve new concepts to each student only when he or she is ready.
- Adapts automatically to each student, so students spend less time on the topics they understand and practice more on those they have yet to master.
- Provides continual reinforcement and remediation, but gives only as much guidance as students need.
- Integrates diagnostics as part of the learning experience.
- Enables you to assess which concepts students have efficiently learned on their own, thus freeing class time for more applications and discussion.

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Over the past three years readers have provided assistance by detecting and reporting errors. Our goal is to offer the best textbook available on the subject, so this information was invaluable as we prepared the ninth edition. We want to ensure that all future editions are error-free—and therefore we offer \$10 per arithmetic error to the first individual reporting it. Any arithmetic error resulting in subsequent errors will be counted double. All errors should be reported using the Feedback Form on the Corporate Finance Online Learning Center at www.mhhe.com/rwj.

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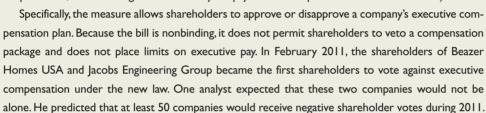
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# Introduction to Corporate Finance

Compensation of corporate executives in the United States continues to be a hot button issue. It is widely viewed that CEO pay has grown to exorbitant levels (at least in some cases). In July 2010, the Dodd–Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act became law. The "say on pay" portion of the bill requires that, beginning in January 2011, corporations with a market value over \$75 million must allow a nonbinding shareholder vote on executive pay. (Note that because the bill applies to corporations, it does not give voters a "say on pay" for U.S. representatives and senators.)



Understanding how a corporation sets executive pay, and the role of shareholders in that process, takes us into issues involving the corporate form of organization, corporate goals, and corporate control, all of which we cover in this chapter.



▲ For updates on the latest happenings in finance, visit <u>www.rwjcorporatefinance.</u> blogspot.com

# 1.1 What Is Corporate Finance?

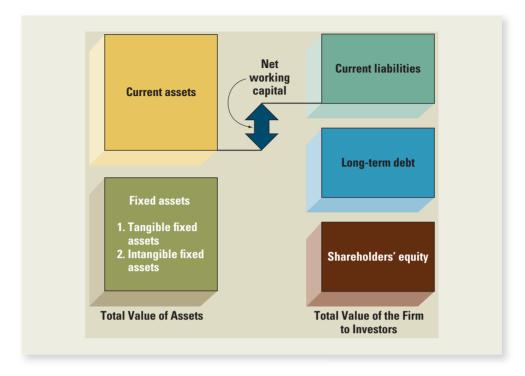
Suppose you decide to start a firm to make tennis balls. To do this you hire managers to buy raw materials, and you assemble a workforce that will produce and sell finished tennis balls. In the language of finance, you make an investment in assets such as inventory, machinery, land, and labor. The amount of cash you invest in assets must be matched by an equal amount of cash raised by financing. When you begin to sell tennis balls, your firm will generate cash. This is the basis of value creation. The purpose of the firm is to create value for you, the owner. The value is reflected in the framework of the simple balance sheet model of the firm.

#### THE BALANCE SHEET MODEL OF THE FIRM

Suppose we take a financial snapshot of the firm and its activities at a single point in time. Figure 1.1 shows a graphic conceptualization of the balance sheet, and it will help introduce you to corporate finance.

The assets of the firm are on the left side of the balance sheet. These assets can be thought of as current and fixed. *Fixed assets* are those that will last a long time, such as buildings. Some fixed assets are tangible, such as machinery and equipment. Other fixed assets are intangible, such as patents and trademarks. The other category of assets, *current assets*, comprises those that have short lives, such as inventory. The tennis balls that your firm has made, but has not yet sold, are part of its inventory. Unless you have overproduced, they will leave the firm shortly.

Figure 1.1
The Balance Sheet
Model of the Firm



Before a company can invest in an asset, it must obtain financing, which means that it must raise the money to pay for the investment. The forms of financing are represented on the right side of the balance sheet. A firm will issue (sell) pieces of paper called *debt* (loan agreements) or *equity shares* (stock certificates). Just as assets are classified as long-lived or short-lived, so too are liabilities. A short-term debt is called a *current liability*. Short-term debt represents loans and other obligations that must be repaid within one year. Long-term debt is debt that does not have to be repaid within one year. Shareholders' equity represents the difference between the value of the assets and the debt of the firm. In this sense, it is a residual claim on the firm's assets.

From the balance sheet model of the firm, it is easy to see why finance can be thought of as the study of the following three questions:

- 1. In what long-lived assets should the firm invest? This question concerns the left side of the balance sheet. Of course the types and proportions of assets the firm needs tend to be set by the nature of the business. We use the term **capital budgeting** to describe the process of making and managing expenditures on long-lived assets.
- How can the firm raise cash for required capital expenditures? This question concerns the right side of the balance sheet. The answer to this question involves the firm's capital structure, which represents the proportions of the firm's financing from current and long-term debt and equity.
- 3. How should short-term operating cash flows be managed? This question concerns the upper portion of the balance sheet. There is often a mismatch between the timing of cash inflows and cash outflows during operating activities. Furthermore, the amount and timing of operating cash flows are not known with certainty. Financial managers must attempt to manage the gaps in cash

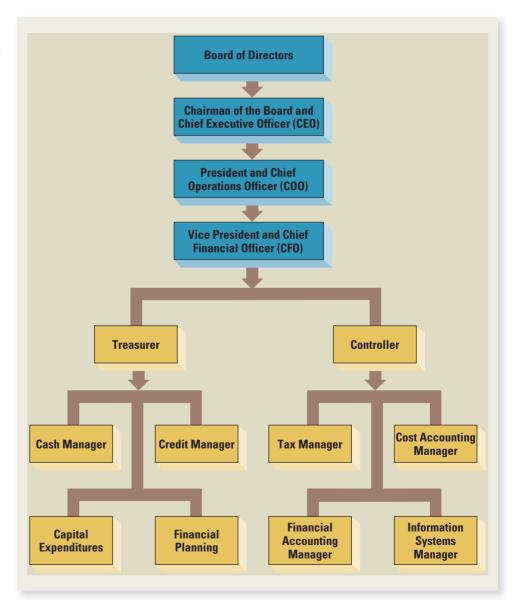
flow. From a balance sheet perspective, short-term management of cash flow is associated with a firm's **net working capital**. Net working capital is defined as current assets minus current liabilities. From a financial perspective, short-term cash flow problems come from the mismatching of cash inflows and outflows. This is the subject of short-term finance.

#### THE FINANCIAL MANAGER

For current issues facing CFOs, see www.cfo.com.

In large firms, the finance activity is usually associated with a top officer of the firm, such as the vice president and chief financial officer, and some lesser officers. Figure 1.2 depicts a general organizational structure emphasizing the finance

Figure 1.2
Hypothetical
Organization Chart



activity within the firm. Reporting to the chief financial officer are the treasurer and the controller. The treasurer is responsible for handling cash flows, managing capital expenditure decisions, and making financial plans. The controller handles the accounting function, which includes taxes, cost and financial accounting, and information systems.

## 1.2 The Corporate Firm

The firm is a way of organizing the economic activity of many individuals. A basic problem of the firm is how to raise cash. The corporate form of business—that is, organizing the firm as a corporation—is the standard method for solving problems encountered in raising large amounts of cash. However, businesses can take other forms. In this section we consider the three basic legal forms of organizing firms, and we see how firms go about the task of raising large amounts of money under each form.

### THE SOLE PROPRIETORSHIP

A **sole proprietorship** is a business owned by one person. Suppose you decide to start a business to produce mousetraps. Going into business is simple: You announce to all who will listen, "Today, I am going to build a better mousetrap."

Most large cities require that you obtain a business license. Afterward, you can begin to hire as many people as you need and borrow whatever money you need. At year-end all the profits and the losses will be yours.

Here are some factors that are important in considering a sole proprietorship:

- 1. The sole proprietorship is the cheapest business to form. No formal charter is required, and few government regulations must be satisfied for most industries.
- A sole proprietorship pays no corporate income taxes. All profits of the business are taxed as individual income.
- 3. The sole proprietorship has unlimited liability for business debts and obligations. No distinction is made between personal and business assets.
- 4. The life of the sole proprietorship is limited by the life of the sole proprietor.
- 5. Because the only money invested in the firm is the proprietor's, the equity money that can be raised by the sole proprietor is limited to the proprietor's personal wealth.

#### THE PARTNERSHIP

Any two or more people can get together and form a **partnership.** Partnerships fall into two categories: (1) general partnerships and (2) limited partnerships.

In a *general partnership* all partners agree to provide some fraction of the work and cash and to share the profits and losses. Each partner is liable for all of the debts of the partnership. A partnership agreement specifies the nature of the arrangement. The partnership agreement may be an oral agreement or a formal document setting forth the understanding.

Limited partnerships permit the liability of some of the partners to be limited to the amount of cash each has contributed to the partnership. Limited partnerships usually require that (1) at least one partner be a general partner and (2) the limited partners

For more about small business organization, see the "Business Formation" section at www.nolo.com.

do not participate in managing the business. Here are some things that are important when considering a partnership:

- 1. Partnerships are usually inexpensive and easy to form. Written documents are required in complicated arrangements. Business licenses and filing fees may be necessary.
- 2. General partners have unlimited liability for all debts. The liability of limited partners is usually limited to the contribution each has made to the partnership. If one general partner is unable to meet his or her commitment, the shortfall must be made up by the other general partners.
- 3. The general partnership is terminated when a general partner dies or withdraws (but this is not so for a limited partner). It is difficult for a partnership to transfer ownership without dissolving. Usually all general partners must agree. However, limited partners may sell their interest in a business.
- 4. It is difficult for a partnership to raise large amounts of cash. Equity contributions are usually limited to a partner's ability and desire to contribute to the partnership. Many companies, such as Apple, Inc., start life as a proprietorship or partnership, but at some point they choose to convert to corporate form.
- 5. Income from a partnership is taxed as personal income to the partners.
- 6. Management control resides with the general partners. Usually a majority vote is required on important matters, such as the amount of profit to be retained in the business.

It is difficult for large business organizations to exist as sole proprietorships or partnerships. The main advantage to a sole proprietorship or partnership is the cost of getting started. Afterward, the disadvantages, which may become severe, are (1) unlimited liability, (2) limited life of the enterprise, and (3) difficulty of transferring ownership. These three disadvantages lead to (4) difficulty in raising cash.

#### THE CORPORATION

Of the forms of business enterprises, the **corporation** is by far the most important. It is a distinct legal entity. As such, a corporation can have a name and enjoy many of the legal powers of natural persons. For example, corporations can acquire and exchange property. Corporations can enter contracts and may sue and be sued. For jurisdictional purposes the corporation is a citizen of its state of incorporation (it cannot vote, however).

Starting a corporation is more complicated than starting a proprietorship or partnership. The incorporators must prepare articles of incorporation and a set of bylaws. The articles of incorporation must include the following:

- 1. Name of the corporation.
- 2. Intended life of the corporation (it may be forever).
- 3. Business purpose.
- 4. Number of shares of stock that the corporation is authorized to issue, with a statement of limitations and rights of different classes of shares.
- 5. Nature of the rights granted to shareholders.
- 6. Number of members of the initial board of directors.

The bylaws are the rules to be used by the corporation to regulate its own existence, and they concern its shareholders, directors, and officers. Bylaws range from the briefest possible statement of rules for the corporation's management to hundreds of pages of text.

In its simplest form, the corporation comprises three sets of distinct interests: the shareholders (the owners), the directors, and the corporation officers (the top management). Traditionally, the shareholders control the corporation's direction, policies, and activities. The shareholders elect a board of directors, who in turn select top management. Members of top management serve as corporate officers and manage the operations of the corporation in the best interest of the shareholders. In closely held corporations with few shareholders, there may be a large overlap among the shareholders, the directors, and the top management. However, in larger corporations, the shareholders, directors, and the top management are likely to be distinct groups.

The potential separation of ownership from management gives the corporation several advantages over proprietorships and partnerships:

- 1. Because ownership in a corporation is represented by shares of stock, ownership can be readily transferred to new owners. Because the corporation exists independently of those who own its shares, there is no limit to the transferability of shares as there is in partnerships.
- The corporation has unlimited life. Because the corporation is separate from its
  owners, the death or withdrawal of an owner does not affect the corporation's
  legal existence. The corporation can continue on after the original owners have
  withdrawn.
- 3. The shareholders' liability is limited to the amount invested in the ownership shares. For example, if a shareholder purchased \$1,000 in shares of a corporation, the potential loss would be \$1,000. In a partnership, a general partner with a \$1,000 contribution could lose the \$1,000 plus any other indebtedness of the partnership.

Limited liability, ease of ownership transfer, and perpetual succession are the major advantages of the corporate form of business organization. These give the corporation an enhanced ability to raise cash.

There is, however, one great disadvantage to incorporation. The federal government taxes corporate income (the states do as well). This tax is in addition to the personal income tax that shareholders pay on dividend income they receive. This is double taxation for shareholders when compared to taxation on proprietorships and partnerships. Table 1.1 summarizes our discussion of partnerships and corporations.

Today all 50 states have enacted laws allowing for the creation of a relatively new form of business organization, the limited liability company (LLC). The goal of this entity is to operate and be taxed like a partnership but retain limited liability for owners, so an LLC is essentially a hybrid of partnership and corporation. Although states have differing definitions for LLCs, the more important scorekeeper is the Internal Revenue Service (IRS). The IRS will consider an LLC a corporation, thereby subjecting it to double taxation, unless it meets certain specific criteria. In essence, an LLC cannot be too corporation-like, or it will be treated as one by the IRS. LLCs have become common. For example, Goldman, Sachs and Co., one of Wall Street's last remaining partnerships, decided to convert from a private partnership to an LLC (it later "went public," becoming a publicly held corporation). Large accounting firms and law firms by the score have converted to LLCs.

To find out more about LLCs, visit www.incorporate.com.

Table I.I A Comparison of Partnerships and Corporations

	Corporation	Partnership
Liquidity and marketability	Shares can be exchanged without termination of the corporation. Common stock can be listed on a stock exchange.	Units are subject to substantial restrictions on transferability. There is usually no established trading market for partnership units.
Voting rights	Usually each share of common stock entitles the holder to one vote per share on matters requiring a vote and on the election of the directors. Directors determine top management.	Some voting rights by limited partners.  However, general partners have exclusive control and management of operations.
Taxation	Corporations have double taxation:  Corporate income is taxable, and dividends to shareholders are also taxable.	Partnerships are not taxable. Partners pay personal taxes on partnership profits.
Reinvestment and dividend payout	Corporations have broad latitude on dividend payout decisions.	Partnerships are generally prohibited from reinvesting partnership profits. All profits are distributed to partners.
Liability	Shareholders are not personally liable for obligations of the corporation.	Limited partners are not liable for obligations of partnerships. General partners may have unlimited liability.
Continuity of existence	Corporations may have a perpetual life.	Partnerships have limited life.

## A CORPORATION BY ANOTHER NAME . . .

The corporate form of organization has many variations around the world. The exact laws and regulations differ from country to country, of course, but the essential features of public ownership and limited liability remain. These firms are often called *joint stock companies*, public limited companies, or limited liability companies, depending on the specific nature of the firm and the country of origin.

Table 1.2 gives the names of a few well-known international corporations, their countries of origin, and a translation of the abbreviation that follows each company name.

**Table 1.2** International Corporations

		Type of Company			
Company	Country of Origin	In Original Language	Interpretation		
Bayerische Motoren Werke (BMW) AG	Germany	Aktiengesellschaft	Corporation		
Red Bull GmBH	Austria	Gesellschaft mit Beschränkter Haftung	Limited liability company		
Rolls-Royce PLC	United Kingdom	Public limited company	Public Ltd. Company		
Shell UK Ltd.	United Kingdom	Limited	Corporation		
Unilever NV	Netherlands	Naamloze Vennootschap	Joint stock company		
Fiat SpA	Italy	Società per Azioni	Joint stock company		
Volvo AB	Sweden	Aktiebolag	Joint stock company		
Peugeot SA	France	Société Anonyme	Joint stock company		

## In Their Own Words

### SKILLS NEEDED FOR THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICERS OF eFINANCE.COM

*Chief strategist:* CFOs will need to use real-time financial information to make crucial decisions fast.

*Chief deal maker:* CFOs must be adept at venture capital, mergers and acquisitions, and strategic partnerships.

*Chief risk officer:* Limiting risk will be even more important as markets become more global and hedging instruments become more complex.

*Chief communicator:* Gaining the confidence of Wall Street and the media will be essential.

SOURCE: BusinessWeek, August 28, 2000, p. 120.

## 1.3 The Importance of Cash Flows

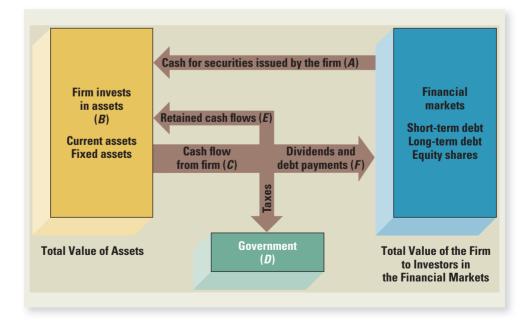
The most important job of a financial manager is to create value from the firm's capital budgeting, financing, and net working capital activities. How do financial managers create value? The answer is that the firm should:

- 1. Try to buy assets that generate more cash than they cost.
- 2. Sell bonds and stocks and other financial instruments that raise more cash than they cost.

Thus, the firm must create more cash flow than it uses. The cash flows paid to bond-holders and stockholders of the firm should be greater than the cash flows put into the firm by the bondholders and stockholders. To see how this is done, we can trace the cash flows from the firm to the financial markets and back again.

The interplay of the firm's activities with the financial markets is illustrated in Figure 1.3. The arrows in Figure 1.3 trace cash flow from the firm to the financial

Figure 1.3
Cash Flows
between the Firm
and the Financial
Markets



markets and back again. Suppose we begin with the firm's financing activities. To raise money, the firm sells debt and equity shares to investors in the financial markets. This results in cash flows from the financial markets to the firm (A). This cash is invested in the investment activities (assets) of the firm (B) by the firm's management. The cash generated by the firm (C) is paid to shareholders and bondholders (F). The shareholders receive cash in the form of dividends; the bondholders who lent funds to the firm receive interest and, when the initial loan is repaid, principal. Not all of the firm's cash is paid out. Some is retained (E), and some is paid to the government as taxes (D).

Over time, if the cash paid to shareholders and bondholders (F) is greater than the cash raised in the financial markets (A), value will be created.

**Identification of Cash Flows** Unfortunately, it is sometimes not easy to observe cash flows directly. Much of the information we obtain is in the form of accounting statements, and much of the work of financial analysis is to extract cash flow information from accounting statements. The following example illustrates how this is done.

#### **EXAMPLE 1.1**

**Accounting Profit versus Cash Flows** The Midland Company refines and trades gold. At the end of the year, it sold 2,500 ounces of gold for \$1 million. The company had acquired the gold for \$900,000 at the beginning of the year. The company paid cash for the gold when it was purchased. Unfortunately it has yet to collect from the customer to whom the gold was sold. The following is a standard accounting of Midland's financial circumstances at year-end:

The Midland Company Accounting View Income Statement Year Ended December 3 I				
Sales	\$1,000,000			
-Costs	900,000			
Profit	\$ 100,000			

By generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP), the sale is recorded even though the customer has yet to pay. It is assumed that the customer will pay soon. From the accounting perspective, Midland seems to be profitable. However, the perspective of corporate finance is different. It focuses on cash flows:

The Midland Company Financial View Income Statement Year Ended December 3 I						
Cash inflow \$ 0						
Cash outflow						
<del>-</del> \$ 900,000						

The perspective of corporate finance is interested in whether cash flows are being created by the gold trading operations of Midland. Value creation depends on cash flows. For Midland, value creation depends on whether and when it actually receives \$1 million.